

## Abstract

## Method and apparatus for decoding source signals

- 5 A method and an apparatus are described for decoding  
coded source signals which are transmitted via a  
transmission channel. In this case, the received  
signals (S) are first of all initially decoded in a  
channel decoder (8) and, in the process, source-coded  
10 parameters are determined from the received signals (S)  
and are passed on to a source decoder (12), which is  
physically separated from the channel decoder (8),  
where they are further-decoded. Reliability  
information, which is correlated with the transmission  
15 quality, is obtained from the received signals (S)  
during the initial decoding. The transmitted source-  
coded parameters are estimated from the received  
source-coded parameters by means of this reliability  
information using an error concealment method. The  
20 error concealment is carried out at the same location  
as the channel decoder (8), and the estimated source-  
coded parameters are passed on to the source decoder  
(12).